

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 05593 230857Z

70

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07

/064 W

----- 067864

R 230751Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4317

INFO DOD WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCPACREPPHIL

13 AF

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 5593

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: PRESS TONES DOWN ON BASES ISSUE

REF: MANILA 5259

1. PHILIPPINE PRESS POSTURING ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS ISSUE HAS BEGUN TO MODERATE. FOLLOWING APRIL 15 STORIES (REFTEL) THAT PHILIPPINES "ABROGATING" PACTS WITH U.S., PRESS HAS GIVEN CONSIDERABLE PROMINENCE TO POST-WASHINGTON SPEECHES IN U.S. BY DFA SECRETARY ROMULO ASSERTING IMPORTANCE OF PHILIP-PINE SOVEREIGNTY. DAILY EXPRESS' VALENCIA TYPICALLY PRANCED AHEAD OF PACK.

2. APRIL 23 DAILY EXPRESS SIGNALLED MODERATION IN FRONT PAGE ITEM DIRECTING READER TO "READ PRESIDENT MARCOS' VIEWS ON RP-US SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS" IN VALENCIA COLUMN. VALENCIA SAID: QUOTE THE MATTER OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE MILITARY BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES WAS DECIDED BY THE FORD-MARCOS JOINT COMMUNIQUE DURING THE LAST VISIT OF THE US PRESIDENT TO MANILA LAST DECEMBER. THIS IS THE VIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANILA 05593 230857Z

PRESIDENT MARCOS. HE TOLD ME SO YESTERDAY. THIS WAS BY

WAY OF CLARIFYING SOME MINOR CONFUSION REGARDING THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE. MANY NEWSPAPERS HAVE BEEN SAYING THAT THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE IS ONE OF THOSE MATTERS TO BE TAKEN BY FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY CARLOS P. ROMULO AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER.

PRESIDENT MARCOS TOLD ME THAT THE PHILIPPINE POSITION IS THAT THOSE MILITARY BASES ARE ALREADY PHILIPPINE BASES. THIS IS A POSITION THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL NOT EVEN DISCUSS BECAUSE IT IS ALREADY SETTLED.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE CABINET AND THE ADVISERS OF THE PRESIDENT HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THE POSITION OF THE BASES NEGOTIATIONS AS EARLY AS JANUARY, THIS YEAR. NOTHING MR. ROMULO HAS SAID IN THE PANEL DISCUSSIONS, IN PUBLIC SPEECHES OR IN PRESS STATEMENTS WAS HIS OWN. WHATEVER ROMULO SAID WAS THE POSITION OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, PRESIDENT MARCOS SAID. FILIPINO, AMERICAN AND OTHER FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS TAKE NOTE. END QUOTE.

3. MODERATION ON BASE NEGOTIATION ISSUES PARALLELED BY EASING UP OF TREATMENT OF SUBIC PX STRIP STORY. ONLY ONE PAPER-BULLETIN TODAY-REFERRED TO EVENT APRIL 23 IN OBJECTIVE NEWS ACCOUNT THAT INCLUDED FACT EXCHANGE HAD LOST \$385,000 WORTH OF GOODS. TIMES JOURNAL, LEADER ON THIS ISSUE, WAS SILENT.

4. COMMENT: IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO READ ANYTHING PROFOUND INTO CURRENT LET UP ON BASES ISSUE BUT IT DOES COINCIDE WITH REPORTS PRESIDENT MARCOS WAS UNHAPPY WITH SHRILLNESS OF RECENT PRESS TONE.

SULLIVAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS, COMMUNIQUES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANILA05593
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760155-0309
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760430/aaaaayto.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MANILA 5259
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <28 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS TONES DOWN ON BASES ISSUE
TAGS: MARR, RP, US, (FORD, GERALD R), (MARCOS, FERDINAND)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006